Tommy Jimplecute, the Modern Theseus, Who Slew the Awful Minotaur With a Poem

Being the Weird Experience of a Little Boy Who Thought He Knew it All

was a quiet, modest boy until There are few boys who can be unduly praised by teachers parents without becoming swelled up with pride and vanity, and Tommy was no exception to the rule. Of course I den't believe in continually snubbing ambitious boys as many parents do, for a certain pride is necessary for a boy's success, and makes most of them strive harder to accomplish their tasks, but Tommy had far too much.

He was a smart boy, and while he didn't like arithmetic and grammar any more than other lads, he was always very near the head of his class. One day the teacher proposed as the subject of the weekly composition that wonderful South American bird the great condor, which, as you probably know, is the largest bird in the world, and one which seldom comes down from near the clouds, but soars in the deep blue sky for many hours at a time. When Tommy asked the teacher if he might write his composition in verse she gave him permission, although she was much surprised, as no one had ever heard of such a thing in that school as a poetical composition. This is what

"Little Johnny Squirtgun Was the boy who had the hurt

He loved to shoot the little birds, And pop them in the eye. He liked to see them suffer, This naughty little duffer; He liked to see them squirming 'And he loved to hear them cry.

So Johnny long did ponder How to pop the awful Condor, And he hunted for the big bird far and wide,

Until at last he met him. But that Condor up and ate him, And now poor little Johnny's on such a fact, and, just as he was, in his nightgown, he climbed over the footboard the bird's inside."

All the scholars clapped their hands and the teacher said it was the best composition she had ever heard of, and she read it to the principal, who had it put in the it to the principal, who had it put in the evening paper with Tommy Jimplecute's couldn't have been expected to know that, name printed beneath.

After that Tommy became so puffed up with pride that he was simply insufferable. He would scarcely speak to the oth-

"Perhaps it is," said her father.
"If it's a disease," said Tommy, very imever get, for it's a brain disease."

For that, Tommy got such a dressing fairy boat.
down with his father's strop that he never After a v in his room a half-hour there came a scratching at the door, and opening it he found there his dog Dan, with a large dog Tommy quite fidgety. Finally he said: biscuit in his mouth which he had saved "Why can't you sing something with the had saved to the five he know that he had been sent to bed supperless. Tommy took the dog biscuit just to please Dan, for he "It's the best I know," said the dwarf, "It's the best I know," said the dwarf,

About two hours afterward Mr. Jimplethere. His bed was all rumpled, showing "I cannot sing at all."
that he had been in it, and there were all his clothes on a chair, but no Tommy.

Mr. Jimplecute went to little four-yearthe weather is certainly delightful," said old Ethel and saked.

"Ethel, do you know anything as to "Yes, I will do that," said Tommy, Tommy's whereabouts?" She looked surthinking that it was best to please his prised and wonderingly answered, "No ugly captor, and perhaps he might the papa, I don't, but I think perhaps they sooner return to land and to bed. "I will are in the wash. This is what happened to proud Tommy

Jimplecute, the Boy Poet. He had falleno asleep soon after getting into his bed, and the foot of the bed, and as he stared at them a form became visible in the gloom, ing dwarf not more than a foot and a

hands and feet and noted the marvesous manner in which he moved across the lower animals have always held that cats top of the footboard. It wasn't natural are stupid, and that it is impossible to

Tommy looked over the foot of the bed, and there, to his immense surprise, right in his room, was a small rowboat with oars inside, and with its bow pointed toward the door.

"Well, get it started." said the dward. The Sow-bug has a fit of spleen, As to himself he rashly boasted; The Earwig has a touch of Then in another day he died.

"The LAY OF THE CHESTAGE TOWARD TOWARD THE CHESTAGE TOWARD TOWARD THE LAY OF THE CHESTAGE TOWARD TOWARD TOWARD THE LAY OF THE CHESTAGE TOWARD TOWARD

'Why, how on earth did that get here?" "I brought it for you to show me how clever you were as an oarsman," answered the dwarf. "Hop in and take the

and dropped into the boat.

"Aha!" sneered the dwarf. "The very of course. Now let me see you row.'

Recited His Poetry

Tommy felt like refusing to obey, but a er children and he signed his name T.

Jimplecute, Poet, whenever he had a chance and even wrote it with chalk on the sidewalk sometimes to see how it dealy the room seemed to fill with a white looked. He felt very important, indeed, mist, and the little boat rose up as if on for more than the heautiful norm war. locked. He felt very important, indeed, far more than the beautiful poem warranted, although it was so fine, and at tast he put on such airs at home that Mr. Jimplecute spoke to him about it. "Remember, Thomas," he said, "that there are many other poets, and, after all, it's not such a tremendous thing. I think there's very little money to be made at the business." remarked Tommy's sister Ethel Helen, "it's a distensive of the first of the form of the oars, but he could not re-Tommy's sister Ethel Helen, "it's a dislet go of the oars, but he could not release, I think."

lease his hold, while in the bow-thwarts sat the ugly little dwarf grinning like a hyena at him. The boat moved rapidly pudently; "it's one neither of you will through the smooth sea, although Tommy didn't row at all, so it must have been a

After a while the dwarf began to sing quite forgot it, and then he was sent to a dwarf song, such as the goblins of old bed without his supper. After he had been used to sing to babies in their cradles for his master, for he knew that he had sense to it if you feel so much like sing-

the dog biscuit just to please Dan, for he the dog biscuit just to please Dan, for he looking somewhat silly, for Tommy had looking somewhat silly, for Tommy had touched a weak spot. "Perhaps you can touched a weak spot." sing something better; you are so clever." Now, Tommy had already learned what cute went to Tommy's room to speak furthe result of conceit meant, and he wisely ther upon the subject, but Tommy was not and quite truthfully replied:

the dwarf. "Yes, I will do that," said Tommy,



Tommy Recites to the Minotaur His . Star Poem, "The Paraspool of the Dink"

and getting slightly over his fear, for he "My! what a title!" cried the dwarf. thought he could call his father if the "What does a chestnut worm lay?"

"Oh bitter, bitter was the nut The worm Ramgoolapoo had rented,

Now, Tommy didn't know a thing about And yet he merely said: 'Tut! Tut! Why cannot I remain content-

Upon the water glides and dances; The Spider weaves a shiny rug

To shield him from the frost's keen lances: The Centipede, he sits and glowers

Thing went for him; "I don't know many "That's only the word for a sort of And calculates how many flowers things I can't do, anyway."

Toull take to make a hundred.

The Cricket he has crept between The sheets he wove of thistle-And packed a lightning-bug or

To warm him all the winter through,

Because he cannot get steam- conceit and vanity. But I, within my nutty home,

Whose walls are both my fuel and food,

Will never more have need to roam,

Will never more have need to wook, has been dead thousands of company to the great growth of the growth of t

As he surveys the evening dews Or seek another neighbor- years. Besides, he's only a myth-a story animal." "Twill take to make a hundred The big, fat worm swelled up with alive, all right," sneered the dwarf, and

"Great and very sentimental," cried the got him and made him into beef tea long count.

dwarf; "but it hardly applies to the seasince, but the dwarf evidently meant what hundred days to his credit the Minotaux son."

nd packed a lightning-bug or "That don't matter," said Tommy; two, "Did you take out one?" asked the at his feet, "Did you take out one?" asked the dwarf. "Say, I wonder that you didn't learn from the worm's sad fate the less to warm him all the winter "Out under the pride?" asked the war was rushing toward it.

Their lamps turned low, down "Did you take out one?" asked the dwarf. "Say, I wonder that you didn't learn from the worm's sad fate the less was rushing toward it.

Truly, for one so young, you are a great black hole in the water. The boat was rushing toward it.

Tommy tried to row away, but he could terlous, such as our Delphic oracles give

"Why?" asked Tommy. "Because then I wouldn't have got you. I am taking you away because of your 'Where are you taking me?" cried the

Will never more have need to "Pshaw, said roming. The amount of about whom I've studied in my mythol-

His Terrifying Adventure Only a Dream. But it Cured Him of His Conceit

"Get out," said the dwarf, and Tomms, obeyed promptly. A door in the wall opened and a voice, a harsh, gruit voice,

"Ah. my Gazabooius, what hast thou brought me?"

"A fine, fat boy, Lord Minotaur. As clever and pleasing a lad as I ever saw, and a youthful poet. Oh, a rare maker of verses and as proud and as vain as ever I found."

"Bring him in," the gruff voice said, and the dwarf led Tommy inside.

There, on a great seat, sat the awful Minotaur, with the head and shoulders of a great bull and the body, arms and legs of a man, dressed in bright red garments and hideous enough to chill a far bolder heart than Tommy's. The Minotaur immediately bellowed: "Ah, my young poet poem thou hast made a day will be given thee to live longer and enjoy all the wondrous pleasures of my gardens of delight." Tommy trembled and was silent from fear of the awful being.

"Come, come, attune thy verses, or I will forget my promise, unhappy mortal I have listened ere this to Homer and Sappho and many others, and now I would hear from thy own lips thy rare songs."

hundred days to his credit the Minotaus Suddenly he saw ahead a vast bolling yawned awfully and said:

Tommy tried to row away, but he could terious, such as our Delphic oracles give not control the power that was drawing us at times?" them toward the yawning aperture. In

Now, as I have said, Tommy only had
the toward the yawning aperture. In

Now, as I have said, Tommy only had
three poems, and the one which he had
in reserve was very mysterious and welld.

Wild plunge, it darted down, down, into

Why don't they say something to His tears were glossed upon the you?"
"Because," replied the ugly one, "it is not considered good form nor even proper to speak to one who is going, as you are, to be sacrificed to the Minotaur."

green, And spavined were his warty

knees, While glittering cobwebs hung Who is that big man with the lion-skin between vest?" asked Tommy.
"That's Hercules, and the lady with him.
with the pink parasol, is the goddess The flatsam of the mealy breeze,

Venus."

"Ah!" cried Tommy, "and there, yonder, is Atlas, holding up the mountain, and I suppose the fellow with the wings on his heels is Mercury, of course. They are very small wings, and I should judge would be of little use to him."

"They are only for show," said the dwarf. "Do you see Vulcan's blacksmith's forge?"

"The natisative of the interacty of codes, the fittered soft his griscome way, the flittered so

jell. forge?"
"Yes; what is he doing?"
"He is forging an ice pick for the refrigerator of Bacchus, the god of wine and
"His furtive nose upcurled with

pride, beer."
"I thought Gambrinus was the god of beer!" said the too-wise Tommy.
"Gambrinus is Dutch, and not on our list. There is the lovely goddess Ceres Proboscid in its ranksome scorn;

"I see her," said Tommy. "It is she who gets up all the cereals, like Mooney's Masticated Oats and Duflicker's Pulverized Baby Food, and the rest. I knew her at once, for I've often seen her picture on the advertisements."

And bitter thoughts of suicide

Were stinging like an uncut corn. Were stinging like an uncut

Oh, knitly gruesome were the the advertisements."
The boat stopped at the foot of marble clouds

That slothered o'er the neelish trees

And hung like desiccated shrouds As vaporish as a mermaid's

sneeze! He heard the Malthus in its lair

Disgruntled on its bed of pain,

And, qualming, put it back again.

All freckled o'er with mushroom And then unwrapped his Paradox

And cast it o'er the gintling lazen-

pressed a desire to examine their skulls and make notes of the results of their education.

Conceited Animals

Conceited Animals

Geleman, the trainer, readily acquiesced to this request, and a very interesting of the results of this request, and a very interesting of the results of their operated in the seasons.

"But in these cats another form of brain development has resulted from their trainal alook of terrible agony upon his face.

"All these cats have definitely formed the Mino-trainal trainal development has resulted from their trainal look of terrible agony upon his face.

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way; it was more like a cray crab's motion.

There is no more conceited and vain aimal living than the cat, and in order to appeal to those passions. Is it not sor" and love of good in the search and anomaly, will be an aimal living than the cat, and in order to appeal to those passions. Is it not sor" and love of good in the search and a very interesting of dogs and monkeys.

Tommy spelled it and spelled it was a spelled it was a spelled it will be a spelled it was a spelled it was a spelled it was a spelled it when the cat and of the best means of an unpleasant laugh and said: "You wrong."

There is no more conceited and vain aimal living than the cat, and in order to appeal to those passions. Is it not sor" animals. A blow or an unkind word would with a spelled it wrong, very wrong."

There is no more conceited and vain aimal living than the cat, and in order to appeal to those passions. Is it not sor" animals. A blow or an unkind word would with a spelled it wrong, very wrong. The cate was held privately for the benefit to appeal to those passions. Is it not sor" animals. Knowing of dogs and monkeys.

But the perseverance and pattence of the schulls show affinity and the cat, and in order to the thinking apparatus of dogs and monkeys.

But the perseverance and pattence of the schulls show affinity and the cat, and in order to appeal to those passions. Is it not sor" animals. Knowing of dogs and monkeys.

But the perseverance and pattence of the schulls in the discovery of the natural under such circumstances, I think. The dwarf laughed in the discovery of the natural and trainer, has a given to the thinking apparatus of the schulls and animal living than the cat, and in order to speal to those passions. Is it not sor" animals. A blow or an unkind word would of the schull show and the pass and trainer and trainer. The provided in these and the passions are the passions and pattence of the schull show and the passion of the schull show and the discovery of the natural under such circumstances. The passion of

ther awoke with a start at hearing a funny noise near him. The room was READING A CAT'S CHARACTER BY THE BUMPS dark, but two bright lights glowed at READING A CAT'S CHARACTER BY THE BUMPS

"Good Evening, Poet Jimplecute, the Smartest Boy in Town," Said the Misshapen Dwarf

domestic pet has been taught to sex. high and after poising herself on a small them. Dogs are like bright, intelligent calculation, which lies at the outer corner large as a pumpkin, with an enormous perform marvelous tricks. More than this, the education of cats and put through a course of training that life-net that was held in the teeth of a were lighted like great balls of red hot skull that up to this time were unheard of.

no business on his bed. He sat up and also increase in size, while the organ of stared harden than ever and the Thing self-esteem is noticeably developed.

grinned a wider grin as it said: "Good Phrenological examinations of a num-

even a bird or a lizard moved that teach them anything. In scientific works

L. Capen, of Philadelphia. His first view intelligent than the domestic animal, us do most of their work for them. Do tered by their master's devotion. evening. Post Jimplecute, the smartest ber of highly trained animals show just of their tricks awakened a lively desire which has all these necessities provided you remember what Montaigne said about "Briefly put, I may say that the amiable boy in the fown."

CIENCE, so far as it relates to lightened a half dozen sedate felines, all the manner of a real circus horse. A ness and daintles and soft places to sleep of individuality. Another curious developcats, has been set at naught-the of whom he calls "Mimi," regardless of fourth climbed a ladder over twenty feet and nap-those are the things that win ment is the large size of the organ of high and after poising herself on a small them. Dogs are like bright, intelligent calculation, which lies at the outer corner Snatch from its head its brinding

The perceptive faculties, which lie close brains that are developed far beyond the "The brains of these cats are the most head. "See how broad and flat the skull also extremely well developed. On the fron, and he moved rapidly from one side The perceptive faculties, which lie close brains that are developed far beyond the "The brains of these cats are the most need. "See how broad and flat the skull also extremely well developed. On the of the foot-board to the other by wrig- above the eyes in the forward part of the skulls is He wept and flicked the salty rocks."

The brains of these cats are the most need. "See how broad and flat the skull also extremely well developed. On the other by wrig- above the eyes in the forward part of the skulls is He wept and flicked the salty rocks." gling a pair of big feet with long claws.
Tommy watched this movement for a moment in great surprise, for he was not yet fully awake, and then, with a start, he realized that such a hideous thing had no business on his bed. He sat up and slice in the forward part of the skulls is incorrect, but through active use of the pomestica, or the common house cat," domesticity in its make-up. It will love extremely narrow, showing lack of all natural talent these cats are able to think more clearly and recollect more distinctly in the front of the head, also increase in size, while the organ of the skulls is incorrect, but through active use of the pomestica, or the common house cat," domesticity in its make-up. It will love extremely narrow, showing lack of all best the person who treats it best. That domestic traits. Amativeness, philopromore distinctly is the secret of Mr. Goleman's power over genitiveness and all the organs which the treating and overcoming difficulties.

Among those who witnessed a recent The necessity of thinking how to provide "Simply because they cannot talk we are almost wonderful that I have ever found in Fells is. There is no bump of benevolence or other hand, the back of the skulls is incorrect, but through active use of the pomestica, or the common house cat," domesticity in its make-up. It will love extremely narrow, showing lack of all best the person who treats it best. That domestic traits. Amativeness, philopromoment is the result in the organs which the person who treats it best. The common house cat," domesticity in its make-up. It will love extremely narrow, showing lack of all best the person who treats it best. The common house cat," domesticity in its make-up. It will love extremely narrow, showing lack of all best through active use of the common house cat," domesticity in its make-up. It will love extremely narrow, showing lack of all best through active use of the common house cat," domesticity in its make-up. It will love extremely narrow and all the common house cat," domest performance of these cats at a local the- food, avoid danger and secure warmth call them stupid, but as a matter of fact perform their tricks or love of their masatre was the noted phrenologist, Dr. John makes the wild animal as a rule far more they are mighty clever beasts and make ter, but rather because they feel flat-

bor of highly trained animals show that he was ridiculing him are increased by the training, which has all these necessities provided by a human master.

Tommy knew that he was ridiculing him are increased by the training, which has all these necessities provided by a human master.

Tommy happened to see the awful to see them a second time, and after care by a human master.

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The start of their tricks awakened a lively desire which has all these necessities provided to see them a second time, and after care by a human master.

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The start of the intervel and the was all these necessities provided to see them a second time, and after care and he was all these necessities provided to see them a second time, and after care and he was all these necessities provided to see them a second time, and after care and he was all these necessities provided to see them a second time, and after care and he was all these necessities provided to see them a second time, and after care and he was all these necessities provided to see them a second time, and after care and he was all these necessities provided to see th

What Tommy Saw